



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

The Application of:
Tsai, et al.

Serial No.: 09/961,134

Confirmation No.: 4110

Filed: September 21, 2001

For: Method and Apparatus For
Forming Metal Layers

MAIL STOP Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

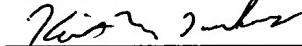
§ Group Art Unit: 1753

§ Examiner: Wong, Edna

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on
August 25, 2004, with the United States Postal Service as
First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner
for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

8/25/04
Date


Signature

Dear Sir:

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

I, the undersigned patent agent, Teresa M. O'Connor, hereby declare as follows:

1. Attached is a letter (Exhibit A) dated prior to August 27, 2001, that enclosed a final draft of the present application my firm sent to the Client (Assignee of record) for filing at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. All masked dates in Exhibit A are prior to August 27, 2001. The signing attorney Patricia Verlangieri is no longer at our firm. Our file does not reflect that our firm made any changes to the specification of the present application after submitting the final draft of the application to the client in the letter of Exhibit A through the date of the actual filing of the application by the Client on September 21, 2001. Also, our file does not reflect that our Client made any changes to the specification of the present application prior to the date of filing the application on September 21, 2001.

2. Subsequent to mailing of our letter (Exhibit A), we received from the Client a letter (Exhibit B) with an enclosed copy of the filing receipt for the present application.

Confidential information not relevant to the invention date of the present application is masked. There is no indication in our files that the specification of the present application was modified from a date prior to August 27, 2001 through the date of actual filing on September 21, 2001.

3. In view of the above, to the extent reference *Collins* (US Patent No. 6,723,219 B2) is relied on by the Examiner in the rejection of pending claim 24, the subject matter disclosed by *Collins* was possessed by Applicant prior to August 27, 2001, and was included in the final draft of the present patent application from a date prior to August 27, 2001, and which was subsequently filed on September 21, 2001.

4. The undersigned, Teresa M. O'Connor, hereby declares that all statements made herein of her own knowledge are true and that these statements made on information and belief are believed to be true and further that these statements were made with knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this application or any patent resulting therefrom.

August 25, 2004

Date



Teresa M. O'Connor
Registration No. 53,399
MOSER, PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.
3040 Post Oak Blvd. Suite 1500
Houston, TX 77056
Telephone: (713) 623-4844
Facsimile: (713) 623-4846
Agent for Applicant(s)

[EXHIBIT A]

THOMASON, MOSER & PATTERSON, LLP



Attorneys at Law
595 SHREWSBURY AVENUE
SUITE 100
SHREWSBURY, NEW JERSEY 07702

Telephone (732) 530-9404
Facsimile (732) 530-9808
www.tmplaw.com

[DATE]

VIA AIRBORNE

Mr. Robert W. Mulcahy
520 Sequoia Drive
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

Re: U.S. Patent Application Entitled:
"METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FORMING METAL
LAYERS"
Your File: 5262/CMP/CMP/RKK
Our File: APPM/5262

Dear Bob:

Enclosed for you to file is a U.S. patent application and IDS for the above-identified docket. In accordance with our usual practice, I have enclosed a disk containing the application in WORD 6.0 format.

As instructed, I have also enclosed unexecuted Declaration, Assignment and Taiwanese Oath and Assignment and Application Summary Sheet, as well as three (3) copies of the application (one for each inventor and one for your file) and a copy of the IDS.

If you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, please feel free to contact me at your earliest convenience.

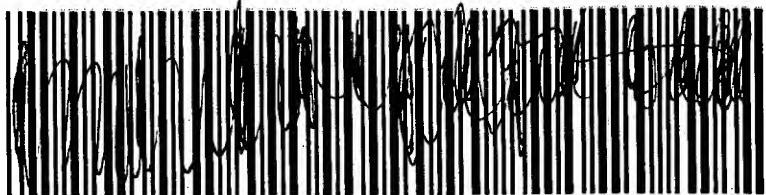
Very truly yours,

Patricia A. Verlangieri
PATRICIA A. VERLANGIERI

PAV/amd
Enclosures

[DATE]

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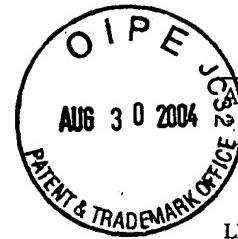
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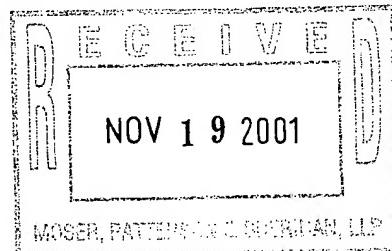
APPLIED MATERIALS

LEGAL DEPARTMENT

[EXHIBIT B]

November 12, 2001

Todd Patterson
Moser Patterson & Sheridan, LLP
3040 Post Oak Blvd
Suite 1500
Houston TX 77056



Re: Applied Materials, Inc. Docket No.: 005262 USA/CMP/CMP/RKK
PLEASE USE THE ABOVE DOCKET NUMBER ON ALL CORRESPONDENCE
U.S. Patent Application Entitled: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FORMING METAL LAYERS

Serial No.: 09/961,134; Filing Date: 21SE2001
Confirmation Number Assignment: 4110
Inventor(s): Stan D TSAI, Shijian LI

Your Reference: APPM/5262

Dear Todd:

Enclosed for your records is a copy of the PTO's official filing receipt for the above-identified patent application. Please review this filing receipt, if you notice any inconsistencies, please use your own judgment as to filing a request for correction in the PTO, advising us of such action.

If an IDS has not yet been submitted to the PTO for this case, would you please prepare and file one; or give me a note for the file if an IDS is unnecessary. If an IDS has been prepared and filed, please disregard this paragraph.

Thank you for your continuing assistance.

Very truly yours,
APPLIED MATERIALS, INC.

Barbara J Holt
Patent Administrator
(408) 986-7273

[CONFIDENTIAL]

Enclosure

2881 Scott Blvd. M/S 2061
Santa Clara CA 95052
Phone (408) 986-7273
Fax: (408) 986-3090

Mailing Address
Applied Materials, Inc.
P. O. Box 450A
Santa Clara CA 95052

[CONFIDENTIAL]